

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 12-14, 16 and 17 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 4 are amended. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Withdrawal of the rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A Final Office Action was issued in connection with this application on April 5, 2006, and an Amendment in response thereto was filed on July 5, 2006. An Advisory Action was issued on July 19, 2006, indicating that the July 5, 2006 Amendment was not entered. The Advisory Action further asserted that the proposed amendments to claim 1 submitted with the July 5, 2006 Amendment fail to overcome the rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed concurrently herewith requests that the July 5, 2006 Amendment be entered. Although Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that claim 1 does not meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, this Amendment further amends claims 1 and 4 in response to the antecedent basis issues raised in the Office Action. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 4 meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and thus the rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are

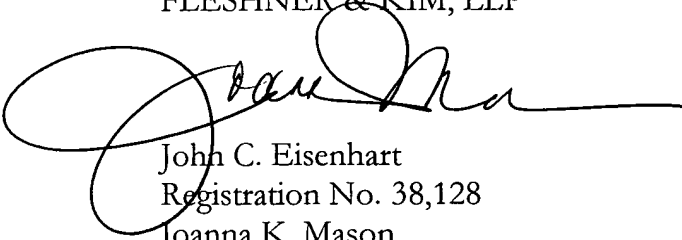
Serial No. 10/829,208

Docket No. IK-0088

earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, **JOANNA K. MASON**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



John C. Eisenhart
Registration No. 38,128
Joanna K. Mason
Registration No. 56,408

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
(703) 766-3701 DYK:JCE:JKM/ah
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Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610